

SERC Meeting
October 21, 2001
6:00 p.m.

Steve Kappa began the meeting at 6:00 p.m., a quorum was present, for those in attendance see attached roster. The minutes of June 25, 2001 were reviewed. Mr. Kappa asked for corrections, deletions or additions. Joe Wyatt made a motion to accept the minutes, Jim Riggs seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business -Mr. Kappa asked Rick Snodgrass to report on the DOJ grant project. Mr. Snodgrass said Texas A&M Extension Service arrived last week to meet with state agency representatives from State Police, Fire Marshal, Public Service and Health. They outlined what should be done to maximize grant expenditures. 1999 funds have been approved for \$463,000 in equipment and \$104,000 in planning for a total of \$567,000 with a deadline imposed by Attorney General Ashcroft of December 15, 2001. The entire grant is a three year project with an award of 1.7 million but certain criteria must be fulfilled before funding is used. Mr. Snodgrass is working to complete the assessment and determine response regions for the state. Each region will need a POC (point of contact) for all information to be funneled through before coming to the state. Bill Willis (Wayne County) asked who and how will regions be determined? Mr. Kappa said basically the state has been divided according to State Police Regions with a few minor boundary changes based on LEPCs. Rick Snodgrass said each response region will have identical goals, the sub-committee will determine them for the state and each response region will need to meet those goals. There was discussion on the \$104,000 planning money, it was asked if it could be converted to training funds if not used. Rick Snodgrass will be checking on that however, once the 3 year strategy is complete and regions have been assessed funding will begin. Mr. Jarvis asked if the same goals will work for six different regions? Rick Snodgrass said yes, they will be very broad. Rudy Raynes said realistically, in his conversations with people in various regions, the equipment needs are almost identical. In other words a hospital may have a need for decontamination equipment, a private company may need a detector or GCMS or a fire department may need suits. Shirley Lawson asked how an entity can obtain funds? Rick Snodgrass said they will need to contact the POC for their region, who then enters it into a database for the entire region. Bill Willis asked how the POC for a region will be determined? Rick said that is up to the region but he recommends each county in the region vote to determine who will represent them. There was discussion on regions, equipment, POC, existing hazmat teams; how to determine who should get which equipment and how much. Rudy Raynes said we really do not have many hazmat teams in the state if you eliminate industry and we're unsure how long they will be willing to go off-site to assist in emergencies because of the liability issue. Shirley Lawson asked when the deadline is? Mr. Snodgrass said Nov. 15, 2001, he has maps which show the counties in each region. He realizes it is a big task but it has to be done quickly in order to obtain the funds. Rudy Raynes said realistically we have

teams and parts of teams in each of the regions, the region most lacking is probably the Wood County area according to Dave Wheatcrafts assessments.

HMEP Grants - Rick Snodgrass reported Mike Agee (Dow Chemical) is unable to attend but sent a letter requesting the sub-committee address the commodity flow study question. He reminded the committee last year we had difficulties with the quality of products turned in. Rudy Raynes - sub-committee chairman said they had taken into consideration problems from the last couple of years and revised some of the grant requests to reflect a more realistic proposal. Two grant requests were denied they did not meet the grant criteria and a few others were modified to meet the criteria. Mr. Kappa asked for a motion to approve the grants as proposed in your packets. Joe Wyatt moved to approve, Jim Riggs seconded. Motion passed. Rudy Raynes said the grants totaled \$78,440 our grant from US DOT is \$86,431 which is based upon new information gathered from the last census. Mr. Snodgrass said the remaining funds of \$7991.00 will be used for administrative purposes, Charles Roghoff, US DOT Program Manager has approved the request. Laverne Muncy also reported to the committee the number of LEPC's who have not utilized all of their HMEP funds for 2001, many have not even received their initial request for payment and the deadline is fast approaching. We need to know soon if they are not going to utilize the funds so we can offer it to other LEPCs who can use it. There are also two requests from LEPCs; Lewis/Upshur (\$2000) and Kanawha/Putnam (\$2000) who would like to receive additional funds if they become available. They have completed their projects and the cost overruns have come out of their operating budgets. Roy McCallister moved to approve the requests by Lewis/Upshur and Kanawha/Putnam LEPC to receive additional funds if they are available. Rudy Raynes, Seconded. Motion passed.

SERC Grants - Laverne Muncy said many of the LEPC's who are eligible for grants either do not request the funds or request partial funding and never request their remaining funds. There was discussion about what to do to encourage eligible LEPCs to obtain grants.

Plan Reviews - Paul Howard has been unable to review the plans submitted to the SERC due to the flooding and Anthrax alerts. He will make a report at the next meeting.

LEPC Membership Approvals - None

By-Laws - During the last meeting two LEPCs, Roane and Fayette submitted By-Laws for approval. Jim Riggs moved to approve the By-Laws for both Roane and Fayette, Roy McCallister seconded. Motion passed. There was some discussion on attempting to encourage LEPCs to submit By-Laws for approval.

Training Subcommittee - Jim Cox reported the Fire Extension Service in

Morgantown has begun classes. We are using them as a contractor as well as RESA to facilitate training in several different regions throughout the state. The recent Virgin Island trip seems to have inspired several groups; EMS has taught 3-4 classes, CAMC has begun work on training for hospitals possibly doing a satellite drop for everyone on the medical net. Rudy Raynes said a Hazmat Tech class is being taught in the Kanawha Valley in November which will involve the Fire Marshal's office, State Police, and local fire departments.

Other New Business - Laverne Muncy asked about the US EPA Region III Conference in Baltimore, Maryland. Usually the SERC funds 8-10 people who wish to attend the national conference. This year we have received 25 requests to attend the conference. There was discussion on the cost of the trip (approximately \$800 per person), the slots per LEPC or if there will be a limit at all. There was discussion on where the funding would come from (SERC funds), what else is paid from SERC funds and if there is enough funds available to send those who want to attend. Roy McCallister made a motion to allow everyone who has already requested funds to attend the conference. Richard Jarvis Seconded. Motion passed. Laverne Muncy asked if anyone had suggestions for next years conference, location or time. There was discussion on various facilities throughout the state, Laverne will check several locations such as Ogelbay, Beckley, Parkersburg, Canaan, Pipestem, Morgantown, Huntington, Charleston, Pipestem, Stonewall Jackson, Mountaineer racetrack. If anyone has suggestions please let Laverne or Cherie know.

Jim Riggs moved to adjourn, Roy McCallister seconded, meeting ended at 6:55 p.m. Next scheduled meeting will be November 26, 2001 in Charleston, WV.